

COOL FEET ON HOT DAYS  
In our day  
WOMEN'S SANDALS  
FREIMANN & BEIN  
THE PALACE, 200, 202, JERUSALEM  
TUESDAY, May 18, 1959

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## Column One By David Courtney

### Atlantic Pact P.M. Announces Council Meets

THE Foreign Ministers of America, Britain and France have agreed upon a co-ordinated policy in Germany. It represents a decisive concession to East-West relations in effect, the end of the occupation status quo. The Ministers met again yesterday within the North Atlantic Council, which is to work out the largest co-ordination of the 12 nations of the pact. Their decision, mainly, will concern military matters: the U.S. wants a strategic plan for the cold war, not a defensive waiting upon a future war, and will make proposals amounting to the systemization of the present haphazard economic and political warfare, and its integration with the purely military plan.

LONDON, Monday. — The North Atlantic Council reviewed the world situation today at its first meeting. The Council issued the following brief communiqué: "The North Atlantic Council met for its fourth session at Lancaster House today. Foreign Ministers of the 12 signatory countries were present. The Foreign Ministers took part in a general review of progress achieved by the North Atlantic Treaty powers in the course of last year and exchanged views on world political developments as they affect the security and well-being of the parties in light of the objectives of the North Atlantic Treaty. The Council will meet tomorrow to a detailed consideration of a report submitted to it by the defense, financial and economic committee."

A reliable source reported that U.S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson reviewed the "cold war" developments in detail when he presided at the session. Mr. Acheson virtually monopolized the meeting, the source added. As the crucial talks opened, police broke up a demonstration of students carrying peace slogans. "We are not Communists," a girl demonstrator said as police dispersed them without any casualties.

Mr. Acheson's opening review followed the pattern set by his already known plans for a concerted effort to stop the East's hard-hitting policy by total diplomacy, the source said. It contained no sensational new points. The first decision that delegates made was to have any discussions with the press during meetings. One of the most critical and controversial issues before the session is the one to make

### Joint Board of Gov't and Agency

The Prime Minister, Mr. David Ben Gurion, yesterday informed the Knesset that the Government and the Jewish Agency Executive had reached an agreement for the establishment of a joint Board to plan and carry out immigrant absorption and land settlement. Mr. Ben Gurion did not name the members, but gave only the positions of the nominees.

### Jews Active In Turkish Election

ISTANBUL, Monday (PTA). — Turkish Jews took a more active part in the election yesterday than in any time since the Republic was founded 30 years ago. Three Jews ran as candidates for Parliament. They were Solomon Adatto, incumbent and member of the Democratic Party; Moshe Cohen of the P.R.P.; and Daniel Behar, an Independent.

### Turkish Democrats Claim Victory

ANKARA, Monday. — The Democratic Party tonight claimed an overwhelming victory in the general elections for Turkey's one-chamber Parliament. Unofficial returns gave the Democrats 350 of the 463 seats. In the last Parliament they had only 23 seats while President Ismet Inönü's Republican People's Party (R.P.P.) had 402.

### League Seeks To Save Face On Jordan Issue

CAIRO, Monday (Reuters). — Egypt, supported by Saudi Arabia, the Lebanon and Syria, tonight demanded the expulsion of Jordan from the Arab League at a meeting of the League's Political Committee here. Iraq and Yemen asked for time to consult with their Governments.

### P.C.C. Calls For Talks to Begin

GENEVA, Monday (UPI). — The Palestine Conciliation Commission today said that it had notified Israel and Arab States that it was ready to resume negotiations between the two parties "at an early date" on the basis of a new procedure proposed by the Commission.

### Jordan M.A.C. Sets Up Mixed Patrols

The Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Commission, decided in Jerusalem yesterday to set up mixed patrols in some sectors of the border as a security measure against marauding bands and infiltrators. Similar patrols are already in operation on the Egyptian border. A military sub-committee will be set up to work out the details.

### Conditions Put

Israel had not rejected the new procedure and methods but Egypt, Syria and the Lebanon said that they would not enter direct negotiations under the Commission's auspices unless Israel agreed to allow all Arab refugees who wished to return to do so. Jordan associated itself with the other three Arab states in this demand.

### Big 3 Expected To Relax German Rule

WASHINGTON, Monday. — It is expected here that the study group set up by the Big Three Foreign Ministers conference will recommend substantial relaxation of occupation control in Germany and the formal end of the state of war.

### Australia Asks Aid For Southeast Asia

SYDNEY, Monday (AP). — Australia's External Affairs Minister, Mr. Percy Spender, today urged nations outside the British Commonwealth to join the Commonwealth in giving economic aid to Southeast Asia.

### Bomb in Damascus Jewish Quarter

DAMASCUS, Monday (AP). — A strong explosion in the Jewish quarter destroyed several houses last night, but nobody was hurt.

### Anglo-Israel Chamber Of Commerce Set Up

LONDON, Monday (UPI). — The Israel Legation today said that an Anglo-Israel Chamber of Commerce was being formed here privately by the two countries.

### Knesset Begins Debate On Tenant Subletting Rights

Four new bills passed their first readings yesterday in the Knesset and a fifth became law. A general debate was opened on two versions of the Tenants Protection Bill introduced by the Minister of Finance and the Knesset Legislation Committee respectively.

### B'nei B'rith Cancels Speech on Germany

WASHINGTON, Monday (UPI). — The State Department today said that it saw "nothing objectionable" in a speech cancelled yesterday by the Anti-Defamation League of the B'nai B'rith in Chicago.

### Lie Confers With Soviet Officials

MOSCOW, Monday (UPI). — U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie met with high Soviet diplomatic officials today and conferred with Foreign Minister Andrei Vishinsky. A number of further conferences is planned and it is uncertain how long Mr. Lie will remain here.

### Seneca's Wife Gives Birth to Daughter

SEROWA, Monday (Reuters). — Ruth Khama, English wife of Serowe Khama, today gave birth to a daughter weighing three kilograms.

### NEW LAWS TO REPLACE EMERGENCY RULES

The Government will ask for legislation extending the powers inherited from the Mandatory Government under the Emergency Regulations of 1945. Mr. Pinhas Rosen, the Minister of Justice, indicated in the Knesset today that the Mandatory Emergency Regulations, the source of the Government's powers to maintain economic controls and restrictions, will expire on December 10, he said. Without these powers, there would be no authority in law to maintain food rationing, control foreign exchange transactions, enact anti-profiteering measures or carry out a variety of other emergency measures in the economic sphere.

### SYRIA SITUATION 'FAR FROM CALM'

The Damascus daily, "Al-Nasr," reported that the Syrian Assembly will meet today to continue discussions of the constitution and of the internal situation, which the paper described as "being far from calm with the people not knowing what tomorrow will bring." It added that "many people felt the army is far too much mixed up in policy."

### Sublet Rights

The Government had last November introduced two bills providing that clauses in leases permitting landlords to evict tenants for sub-letting rooms shall not apply if rooms are leased to immigrants or to discharged servicemen. The Legal Committee felt that the two bills should be combined and furthermore should be extended to include the entire population. The amendments were fought by the property owners.

### McClay 'Astounded'

FRANKFURT, Monday (AP). — U.S. High Commissioner John J. McClay said today that he was "astounded" at the action of the B'nai B'rith in Chicago in cancelling the speech of his Assistant, Benjamin J. Buttenweiser. Mr. McClay said he had seen the speech and agreed with its contents.

THE Foreign Ministers of the meeting of the Atlantic Council, the meeting and the meeting in Bonn, are not intended to be a gesture of peace and friendliness towards the Soviet. That is to say, they are not intended to be a gesture of peace and friendliness towards the Soviet. That is to say, they are not intended to be a gesture of peace and friendliness towards the Soviet.

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## KIRYA NOTES

Mr. M. Namir, Minister for the Interior, is returning to Israel today on leave.

Mr. Y. Tsur, Israel Minister to Argentina, is to present his letters of credence as Minister to Chile to the President of the State in Santiago today.

## Social & Personal

Dr. Nathan Morris, Director of the Department of Education of the Jewish Agency, has returned from a mission to France and Britain on behalf of the Department and the Joint Palestine Appeal.

M. and Mme. Thelin of Geneva are at present touring in Israel. M. Thelin is the Secretary-General of the International Union for Child Welfare.

District Court Judge P. Schwartzmann has changed his name to Avisar.

Mr. Y. Zundelewitz, who has for a year been a member of the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court, has been appointed to the District Court, with effect from May 21.

The Hail City English Second Division soccer team was received by the Mayor of Jerusalem, Mr. Daniel Auster, yesterday.

Dr. Joseph Weiss, Director of the Financial and Economic Section of the J.N.F., has returned to Jerusalem from a visit to Western Europe.

Arrivals in the s.s. Negba yesterday included Lola Granetman, noted pianist, and Mr. Jon Kimche, ONA Correspondent.

Mr. B. Binett, of Zurich Advertising, Tel Aviv, has left for Europe.

Dr. Harnam Singh, who represented Delhi University at the Hebrew University celebrations, will speak on "Partitions of India" at the Haila Rotary Club luncheon tomorrow.

Mr. M. Rosette, the Clerk of the Knesset, will address the Israel Touring Club in Jerusalem tomorrow night at 9 o'clock on "The First Year of the Knesset."

Dr. I. Tishby will deliver a lecture on "Symbolism and Religion in the Kabbala" under the auspices of the Hebrew University at 8 o'clock this evening at Terra Sancta (Room 29). This is the fifth lecture in the series in honour of the 70th birthday of Prof. J.J. Guttman on "The Fundamental Principles of Judaism." The public is invited.

A lecture on "The People's World Convention (Geneva, December 1950)" will be given by Mr. John Popper, Member of the International Liaison Council of the "People's World Convention," under the auspices of the Federalist Association of Israel at the "Mendon" 17 Rothschild Boulevard, Tel Aviv, on Thursday evening at 8.30.

Eilat's opera, "Carmen," will again be presented by the Hebrew National Opera at the Habimah Theatre, Tel Aviv, at 8.30 tonight. Edie de Philippe will sing the role of Carmen and G. Singer will conduct.

**OBITUARY**  
Mrs. FANNI MORGENSTERN The death took place in Jerusalem on May 14, 1950, of Mrs. Fanni Morgenstern (nee Tishch), aged 70, mother of Mr. Felix Morgenstern and Mrs. Gabriella Becker.

For daily shavers: Ika Shaving Cream protects your skin. (Adv.)

**The Hebrew National OPERA**  
TEL AVIV: HABIMAH  
TODAY AT 8.30  
**CARMEN**  
with EILIT DE PHILIPPE  
(Carmen)  
G. SINGER  
Conductor  
Tickets: 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100, 110, 120, 130, 140, 150, 160, 170, 180, 190, 200, 210, 220, 230, 240, 250, 260, 270, 280, 290, 300, 310, 320, 330, 340, 350, 360, 370, 380, 390, 400, 410, 420, 430, 440, 450, 460, 470, 480, 490, 500, 510, 520, 530, 540, 550, 560, 570, 580, 590, 600, 610, 620, 630, 640, 650, 660, 670, 680, 690, 700, 710, 720, 730, 740, 750, 760, 770, 780, 790, 800, 810, 820, 830, 840, 850, 860, 870, 880, 890, 900, 910, 920, 930, 940, 950, 960, 970, 980, 990, 1000, 1010, 1020, 1030, 1040, 1050, 1060, 1070, 1080, 1090, 1100, 1110, 1120, 1130, 1140, 1150, 1160, 1170, 1180, 1190, 1200, 1210, 1220, 1230, 1240, 1250, 1260, 1270, 1280, 1290, 1300, 1310, 1320, 1330, 1340, 1350, 1360, 1370, 1380, 1390, 1400, 1410, 1420, 1430, 1440, 1450, 1460, 1470, 1480, 1490, 1500, 1510, 1520, 1530, 1540, 1550, 1560, 1570, 1580, 1590, 1600, 1610, 1620, 1630, 1640, 1650, 1660, 1670, 1680, 1690, 1700, 1710, 1720, 1730, 1740, 1750, 1760, 1770, 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## from DAN to BEERSHEBA

### TODAY'S POST BAG

## The Weather

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## Budget Speech Gave Hard Facts

By GERDA LUFT

THE major speech of the Minister of Finance introducing the Budget for 1950 and drawing a picture of economic developments to come had one outstanding merit: it attempted to bring before the Knesset the position as it is today without embellishments.

It may thus serve as a basis for a frank and comprehensive discussion of our economic problems and prospects. It cannot, on the other hand, be denied that Mr. Kaplan was unable to show how and when we shall be able to breathe more freely and see our way to a more balanced economic position.

This is not the Minister's fault. He has been given a job—to finance the immigration of another 550,000 souls before 1953, and this at a time when the number of immigrants in the camps is nearing the 100,000 mark. The London "Economist" says this job might appear hopeless "with pencil in hand." It is, therefore, not surprising that the Prime Minister's research team nor the heart-searching of the Minister of Finance and his advisers have been able to produce a clear-cut plan for doing the job.

**Gap Growing Wider**  
The gap between the money needed to absorb this broad stream of immigrants and the trickle of capital flowing in has been growing wider. We had 45,000 immigrants in the camps last year and have more than 90,000 now. All the progress made — by absorbing 165,000 immigrants, increasing agricultural production, raising the number of industrial working days by 30 per cent — cannot erase the fact that while we needed 300 million pounds for new investments we were able to raise only 120, that we had to enlist potential producers for military service and that production in relation to the population has fallen, although production itself has risen.

The budget had, therefore, to tackle the all-important task of narrowing the gap between production and consumption raised by immigration. How did Mr. Kaplan approach this task?

We are unable to give a clear answer because we have been given only the figures for the ordinary and development budgets — the Defence budget being still an official secret. This makes the job of the critic exceedingly difficult. The Treasury must do two things simultaneously. It must make sure that inflation, which has been halted for the time being by partial controls, shall not re-appear, while it is forced to put additional capital into circulation by introducing a development budget — which by its very nature is inflationary.

The only hope of overcoming the present situation where we import ten times more than we export is to produce more

and to export more. Hence, the need for large-scale development projects. But these very projects and their financing — not out of savings — must make the danger of inflation greater and thus threaten our export capacity. The whole business resembles a vicious circle.

**Money in the Bank**  
The figures given by Mr. Kaplan show that, although the cost of living has come down during the last year, bank deposits have risen by 40 per cent and money in circulation by 48 per cent. This means that at the very time when the Government is casting about desperately for new investments, the public has not followed its lead, but prefers to keep its money in the bank or — as the Minister of Finance complained — to invest in expensive cars and dwellings.

This may have caused the Government to decide on a new venture which may well make economic history: it proposes to take the initiative in the field of industry. There are plans for Government investments of £1.65m. in chemical and other industries, and it is hoped that foreign currency might thus be saved and an impetus given to private investments which would be able to branch out from these undertakings. The underlying trend of thought seems to be that it is not enough to employ people wherever possible, but that it is imperative to use them for increased production.

This is perhaps the main criterion by which the development budget should be scrutinized. We shall have to ask how far these £1.65m. will serve the expansion of production because that is the only way to balance our payments and provide more steady employment. It is no secret that during last year this goal receded further and further. While we lived "from ship to mouth" as far as foodstuffs and raw materials were concerned, we managed only by almost superhuman exertions to create work for the tens of thousands asking for it. Public works and building played a major role in the plan of the Ministry of Labour and the other authorities concerned with the problem of unemployment.

**Taxation No Incentive**  
It is doubtful whether the proposed development budget for this year will change this perception. Hence, intense scrutiny and careful weighing of opportunities should be brought to bear. It is evident that during the coming year we shall have to tighten our belts still further, because foreign currency will be still shorter than before. The task to which the development budget is put should make it reasonably certain that the sacrifices to be made will serve the main purpose of raising production. The ordinary budget should,

of course, be scrutinized from the same point of view. The experiences of last year show that taxation is no incentive to raise output. This was implicitly acknowledged by Mr. Kaplan when he suggested that extra income earned by increased output might be made tax-free. If, however, workers benefit from this, other groups will doubtless exert pressure for their interests.

Although no new taxes are to be introduced and the general scheme remains much the same as last year, the Knesset will have to face the fact that the ordinary budget has risen considerably, and that Government machinery is expanding. The question, raised many times and never answered, should be asked again: is the Government machine as efficient as it could be under the circumstances? The public sees only the growing number of officials, while at the same time complaints against the civil service pile up. The problem is of special importance because, under a system of controls, the Government depends on the willing cooperation of the public.

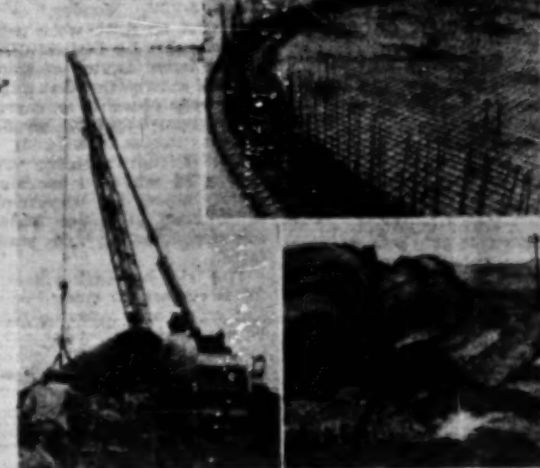
The budget speech has shown that economic problems have taken on a clearer outline than in 1949. The magnitude of the task is more appreciated. Only slowly the main problems — balance of payments, increased production, standard of living — become clearly defined. The policy evolved by the Government will have to be checked and rechecked not only by the vested interests but by the bare facts as they appear ever more clearly through the fog of party discussions and propaganda.

**Anti-Collision Device**  
A NEW navigational aid for ships has been developed in the United States. Called an "anti-collision sound detector," the instrument enables the navigator in a ship's pilot house to pick up in thick weather sound signals from other vessels that are too faint to be heard by the human ear.

The "ears" of the apparatus are four super-sonic, weather-proof microphones mounted outside the pilot house to cover the sea areas ahead, astern, and on each side. The instrument's "brain" is a motor located inside the pilot house and under the direct observation of the navigator.

When a sound has been detected by one of the microphones, the navigator, by observing the meter, can determine the direction of the sound and its position relative to his own vessel. Developers of the instrument, engineers of C. C. Galbreath & Sons, Inc., say that it not only detects a vessel for radar, but that it provides super-sensitive ears as an adjunct to radar's super-sensitive eyes.

## WATER FOR JERUSALEM



Left: Crane bringing into position a section of the new pipe. Right above: A reservoir being built along the route. Below: Welding two sections of pipe. Photos by Braun

## Readers' Letters

### ARABS IN ISRAEL

The Editor, The Jerusalem Post  
Sir, — Last week your paper carried a statement that I had demanded in the Knesset that Arabs be made second-grade citizens. May I be permitted to say that nothing could be further from the thoughts which I expressed.

At present our Government has given the non-Jews in Israel full rights on paper while in practice it is curtailing these rights by a system of Emergency Regulations and Security Zones. At the same time the Government clearly has the intention to give to the non-Jews some day the status of a legally defined "Arab Minority," probably similar to the status of "Jewish Minority" under which we laboured in Poland before the war. I strongly object both to the present state of affairs and to the final aim of creating an "Arab Minority."

As for the present, admittedly the Arabs cannot very well be accepted in full confidence as being faithful citizens of Israel. This is not because of any "anti-Arab" feeling, but rather out of respect for their plight and difficulties. How dare we demand of them enthusiasm or even fidelity at a time when their brothers — their actual brothers — are scheming against us from outside Israel? But I do oppose the method adopted by the Government of solving this difficulty by denying the Arabs in practice the rights which are theirs in principle. This behaviour leaves the Arabs legally completely defenceless and, moreover, puts us morally in the wrong.

**"Intermediary Status"**  
I demand that an "Intermediary Status" be drafted which would define (and temporarily limit) the rights of the Arabs in Israel during the period of unrest — say until five years after the signing of the last peace treaty with a member of the Arab League. This "Intermediary Status" would provide the Arabs with legal means of defending their rights and would accustom them to the fact (which is today not yet a fact) that we keep our promises to them. We have really suffered too much elsewhere under regimes that had beautifully democratic laws, but that were not for us to play the same trick on anybody else.

At the same time we must tell the Arabs clearly and right away what their final status in Israel will be. And this final status may not be that of a "National Minority." Again we have suffered enough as such minorities to know what a status that is. Some of us who came from Poland are labouring under the illusion that what was wrong with the Minority Status was the fact that we were the minority. That is not so. The system of National Minorities has proved detrimental to all the States where it was applied.

**TRAVELLERS**  
Wardrobe trunks, cabin trunks, air-travel cases and bags. New and second hand. European and American made. **WISLICKY** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

## Trygve Lie's Moscow Chances

By LANDRUM BOLLING

LAKE SUCCESS (ONA) — exclusion of the Chinese Communists.  
MR. Trygve Lie is an amiable big bear of a man, with a warm heart, a passion for peace and a high sense of international civic responsibility. Just the same, there is not much hope that he can end the Cold War by going to call on the ageing dictator in the Kremlin. Stalin knows that Mr. Truman knows it, and so does Mr. Lie.

The U.N., moreover, is not going to live or die depending on what kind of harsh words the Secretary-General hears in Moscow. If that were the case, it would have been dead long ago.

However, there is real purpose to this visit and it may have an important, if limited, success. Mr. Lie wants first of all to persuade the Soviets to resume active participation in United Nations action, rather than the boycott which they have boycotted for several months now in protest against the

**AIR-LETTERS**  
The Editor, The Jerusalem Post  
Sir, — Some months ago the Postal Authorities stated that air-letters could not yet be introduced here, because Israel was not a member of the International Postal Union. Membership has now been effected and the event was even celebrated by a special issue of stamps. May we know why the public is still prevented from making use of this cheap method of correspondence?

Yours, etc.,  
K.F.  
Jerusalem, May 12.

**RADIO ANNOUNCERS**  
The Editor, The Jerusalem Post  
Sir, — Perhaps it would be good to remind our young radio announcers that they should realize that they are not merely speaking to a local audience but that many people in other countries listen to Kol Yisrael. There is ample room for speedy improvement where politeness and civility are concerned. Could they not apologise at least when they put on the wrong side of a gramophone record or check up on themselves whilst reading the news or after technical interruptions?

Yours, etc.,  
BERRY LOEB  
Tel Aviv, May 10.

**PEN PAL**  
Alfred Blackman would like a pen friend in Israel with a knowledge of English and interested in current events. His address is 384 Wansted Park Road, Ilford, Essex, England.

## Afikim's Semi-Jubilee

By DOROTHY BAR-ADON

KIBBUTZ Afikim will celebrate its 25th birthday on Shavuot with elaborate festivities of several days' duration. Preparations are being made to receive hundreds of guests from various parts of the country, in addition to the 4,000 members of neighbouring Jordan Valley settlements. Being to "Polio" fears, the Children's Day programme has been cancelled. A large exhibition of agricultural, industrial and cultural projects is being arranged to trace the settlement's growth in graphs, photographs, art exhibits, and plastic miniatures. Among other features will be a play, "Ruth," written by M. Y. Ben-Gavriel, and a musical evening by the Afikim choir of 50 voices accompanied by the Jordan Valley Orchestra.

On their semi-Jubilee, the members of Afikim may point to substantial achievements. From being among the pioneers of agriculture and industry in the Jordan Valley, the settlement has become one of its vital centres. The exhibition graphs will tabulate pertinent statistics: 1,300 souls settled on 2,900 dunam of land; 200 dunam of banana groves and 220 dunam of carp ponds; 12,000 fowls, 220 cows, the "Kolet" box and plywood factory, a transport co-operative.

But the spirit and personality of the settlement cannot be conveyed in graphs. In some respects, Afikim has been a "white-hot" boy among the settlements, expanding, progressing, prospering and still avoiding the perils of "mushroom growth." It has become noted for swift

yet steady expansion in projects and population.

**Came From Russia**  
Known simply as the "USSR group" when the founders arrived from Russia in 1924, they have become specifically cosmopolitan. A roster of nationalities ranges from the American group which joined them in 1934 to the final Israeli Indian group which joined them some months ago.

The history of the site of Afikim dates back only to 1934 when the first permanent building was completed. Prior to that the group underwent a period of wandering and path-searching, even dropping their affiliation with Hashomer Hatzair and helping to found the Kibbutz Hameuhad.

The first dozen to arrive worked for several months picking tobacco leaves at Mahanaim in Galilee. When their numbers increased, they moved on to their first real job, road building near Yavneel. The road completed, some went to Haifa to help build the transformer house for the Palestine Electric Corporation, and others to newly founded Afikim where one of their members claims to have completed the first house (with more daring than building knowledge).

**"Gypsies" Settle Down**  
The construction of an electric power station at Naharayim, at the Jordan-Yarmuk junction, offered the "gypsy" group a chance to settle down.

Employed at the station, they lived in the historic courtyard of Kinnereth until they moved to their allotment of 500 dunams, made possible by four neighbouring settlements contributing 125 dunams each of their own land.

From the beginning, agriculture and industry went hand-in-hand. The "Kolet" factory, now the largest of its kind in the Middle East, was opened while they were still living temporarily in the Kinnereth courtyard. Obtaining crates was a problem throughout the country. So two members, using a hand saw, began to make them from logs. The rest of the story is an industrial romance. The story of their transport cooperative follows similar lines though on a smaller scale. They started with a dilapidated Ford car which developed into a fleet, carrying goods and passengers until they linked up their passenger service with Egged.

As always prior to an anniversary there is an atmosphere of reminiscence in Afikim among the old-timers. While seated under a tree in a vintage spot to feel the vigorous throb of Afikim today, a veteran remarked: "We never dreamed of anything like this. Do you know how I was accepted as a member? I danced the 'debka' — it couldn't have been bad — and they decided to take me into the group."

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